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REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the attention accorded to the instant application.

Claims 1-9 are canceled. Claims 10-21 have been added. No new matter has been added.

I. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112 first and second paragraph, as (1) containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention, and (2) containing indefinite subject matter with functional or operational language.

Applicants have canceled claims 1-9. Applicants have introduced new claims 10-21 which address the Examiner's rejections. No new matter has been added.

II. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2 and 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,585,960 to Sato et al. ("Sato"). The Examiner states that Sato teaches an apparatus to display stereoscopic images with a digital micro-mirror device.

Applicants have added new claims 10-21. New independent claim 10 recites a "3D stereoscopic projection system comprising: a digital micro-mirror display and a switcher for optically switch between left eye perspective image and right eye perspective image in a flicker free fashion," wherein the "switcher is independent of the rate at which

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image data is received by said 3D stereoscopic projection system.” Claim 10 is directed to a stereoscopic projection system wherein the means for switching between the left-right images is independent of the rate at which image data is received. That is, there is no external clock or sync signal that is required for the switching of the left and right images.

In contrast, Sato is directed to a spatial light modulating apparatus to display a stereoscopic image where the two dimensional images are arranged at a predetermined period interval. That is, Sato requires a clock or sync signal to determine the period (see, for e.g., Sato Fig. 25, reference signal E1). Therefore Sato does not teach or suggest a stereoscopic projection system wherein the means for switching between the left-right images is independent of the rate at which image data is received.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 10-21 are therefore not anticipated by Sato.

III. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected claims 3, 6-7 and 8-9 as being unpatentable over Sato in combination with various references. The Examiner states that claim 3 is rendered unpatentable because synchronization with a color wheel is extremely well known in the art. The Examiner states that claims 6-7 are rejected as being unpatentable over Sato in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,456,432 to Lazzaro et al. (“Lazzaro”) because Lazzaro teaches conversion from a spatially interlaced image into a time multiplexed image stream. The Examiner has rejected claims 8-9 as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Lazzaro and U.S. Patent No. 5,226,114 to Martinez et al. (“Martinez”). The Examiner asserts that

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Martinez teaches that it is well known in the art to use a column-doubling method in displaying the image to improve image resolution.

Applicants have canceled claims 1-9. Applicants have added new claims 10-21. New independent claim 10 recites a "3D stereoscopic projection system comprising: a digital micro-mirror display and a switcher for optically switch between left eye perspective image and right eye perspective image in a flicker free fashion," wherein the "switcher is independent of the rate at which image data is received by said 3D stereoscopic projection system." Claim 10 is directed to a stereoscopic projection system wherein the means for switching between the left-right images is independent of the rate at which image data is received. That is, there is no external clock or sync signal that is required for the switching of the left and right images.

In contrast, Sato is directed to a spatial light modulating apparatus to display a stereoscopic image where the two dimensional images are arranged at a predetermined period interval. That is, Sato requires a clock or sync signal to determine the period (see, for e.g., Sato Fig. 25, reference signal E1). Therefore Sato does not teach or suggest a stereoscopic projection system wherein the means for switching between the left-right images is independent of the rate at which image data is received.

Similarly, Lazzaro does not teach or suggest a stereoscopic projection system wherein the means for switching between the left-right images is independent of the rate at which image data is received. Similarly, Martinez does not teach or suggest a stereoscopic projection system wherein the means for switching between the left-right images is independent of the rate at which image data is received.

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The Examiner is reminded that to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the references or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. In re Vaæck, 947 F.2d 488 (Fed. Cir. 1991).


As stated previously, neither Sato, Lazzaro nor Martinez teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of claim 10. Since the cited references do not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations, either alone or in combination with each other, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been set forth. Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that claim 10 is allowable over the cited references. Claims 11-21, by their dependency on claim 10, are similarly allowable.

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IV. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims 10-21 are now in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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